

Fort Sheridan Quartermaster Stable
Guardhouse (Building No. 37)
East side of Lyster Rd.
Fort Sheridan
Lake County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-1113-11

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/11-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. IL-1113-1.1

FORT SHERIDAN, QUARTERMASTER STABLE GUARDHOUSE
(Building No. 37)

FORT SHERIDAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/11-

Location: East side of Lyster Road, directly opposite
the Quartermaster Stable (Building No. 38).
Fort Sheridan, Lake County, Illinois.

USGS Highland Park Quadrangle, Universal Transverse
Mercator Coordinates: 16. 432880. 4673410.

Present Owner
and Occupant: United States Army.

Present Use: Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters.

Significance: Designed by the architectural firm of Holabird and Roche to house the quartermaster stable guards, this building possesses many of the architectural features which characterize that firm's work at Fort Sheridan. It makes a notable addition to the comprehensiveness of the surviving building stock on the post.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1892.
2. Architect: Holabird and Roche, Chicago.
3. Original and subsequent owners: U.S. Army from date of construction to the present.
4. Contractor: Jonathan Clark and Sons and Company.
5. Original plan and construction: A buff-cream brick building with a gable roof running north-south and the entrance in the long side.
6. Alterations and additions: The exterior of the house has had few alterations. The porch has been screened in. Two wooden entryways adjacent to one another were added at the rear, one providing access to the first floor kitchen and one providing access to the basement. The windows have been modified. The interior has been extensively remodeled.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Original architectural drawings:

Directorate of Facilities Engineering, Fort Sheridan, Illinois.
First floor plan and elevations, 1891

Holabird and Root, 300 West Adams St., Chicago, Illinois. 60606.
Plans, elevations, scale detail of locker, stone diagram, full
scale detail of cornice and coping, full scale detail of porch
and gutter, n.d. Drawings have been water damaged.

2. Old views:

Mackern, H. G. Fort Sheridan: At Attention and Rest, Chicago,
H. G. Mackern, 1897, n.d.

Views of Fort Sheridan, Record Group 92, Audio Visual Archives,
National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C.
ca. 1897. Reference No. 92-F-61B-7.

3. Bibliography:

Papers Relating to Fort Sheridan. Office of the Quartermaster
General Consolidated Correspondence Files, 1784-1915 and Office
of the Quartermaster General, Construction Division, Record
Group 92. U.S. Army Continental Command, 6th Corps Area Records,
Record Group 394, (contains specifications) National Archives
and Records Service, Washington, D.C.

Real Property Records, Directorate of Facilities Engineering,
Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

Prepared by Sally Kress Tompkins
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
June 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A simple, rectangular brick building with raked parapets on the gable ends. Segmentally arched windows and lunettes in each of the gable ends provide the major decorative details. While the building is plainer than the other Holabird and Roche designs at Fort Sheridan it is still suggestive of the Richardsonian Romanesque style which is reflected in the post's buildings.
2. Condition of fabric: Structurally the building appears to be sound. The exterior paint is peeling and the screening is in bad shape. The interior is in excellent condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The building is a rectangular block one story high with four bays across the facade. It measures 22'-6" by 54'-6" with a rear entry porch measuring 6' by 8'.
2. Foundations: Limestone rubble with a cement water table.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Buff-cream colored brick laid in common bond with five rows of stretchers to one of headers. There is a brick water table at the level of the window sills.
4. Structural system: Brick-bearing wall.
5. Porches: A four bay porch with a hipped roof covers the entire facade. Five free standing brick piers and two engaged piers on the house support the roof. The piers are battered at their bases. There are inset stone bands at the bottom, the middle and the top of each pier. Above the piers is a denticulated frieze.

The porch floor and ceiling are constructed of boards which are painted gray. The space between the piers has been enclosed with wooden partitions below and screening above. Lattices enclose the area below the porch floor. Two screen doors, one on the front and one on the side provide access to the porch. A flight of wooden stairs leads up to each door.

6. Chimneys: There is one interior brick chimney on the ridge of the roof near the north side.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The door on the main entrance which opens off the porch is constructed of twelve lights set in a wood frame with a rectangular transom having two lights. Above the door is a segmental arched, flat topped, gauged brick lintel.

In the rear the door into the entryway at the first floor level is a screen door. The inner door into the main house is paneled wood painted an off white with three lights. The door into the entryway over the basement stairway and the door into the basement are both paneled wood painted off white.

- b. Windows: The windows have segmental arched, flat topped, gauged brick lintels. They are four-over-four and six-over-six light double hung sash. A double window and a single window on the facade have no arched lintels and are surrounded by a darker colored brick. One of these windows may have replaced a second door. On the rear an original window now behind an entryway has been infilled with brick and a new window has been cut through just north of the entryway. The window sills are concrete.

Lunettes in each of the gable ends have arches formed by triple rowlocks with a projecting extrados archivolt of brick headers. They have no glazing. One is partially enclosed by horizontal wooden slats; the other is boarded up.

8. Roof: The gable roof is covered with cement asbestos shingles and ridge rolls. There are raked parapets on the gable ends with molded, lap jointed, terra cotta coping and stone brackets.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The front door opens into the living room. At the rear of the room a doorway provides access to a hall and the dining room and the kitchen on the east. Four bedrooms open off the hall, two to the east and two to the west. There is no second story and the basement can only be entered by the outside stairway.
2. Flooring: The basement has concrete floors. The floor on the first level is constructed of boards of 2-1/4" width.

3. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls of the basement are unpainted brick and stone. The ceilings are unfinished. On the first level the walls and ceilings are plaster painted a pale gray. The walls are 12-1/2' high.
 4. Doorways and doors: The doorways have molded architrave trim. The doors are wood with five panels. Both frames and doors are painted an off white color.
 5. Mechanical equipment: The building was constructed with indoor plumbing and steam heat. The present steam heating system relies on gas rather than on coal as it did earlier. The post was receiving electricity as early as 1890, although the original lighting may have been by gas.
- D. Site: The house is located on the east side of Lyster Road across from the quartermaster Stables. Railroad tracks which are no longer used run directly behind the house. The lot on which the house is situated is planted with grass and shrubbery.

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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under the auspices of Interagency Archeological Services, Atlanta and funded by the U.S. Department of Army, Fort Sheridan, Illinois. It included a historical and architectural survey of the fort to provide the necessary data for implementation of the Fort Sheridan Historic District. Documentation was obtained on thirty-one buildings. The survey and documentation were accomplished by Sally Kress Tompkins, an architectural historian on the HABS staff under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth Anderson, Principal Architect; Carolyn Pitts, Principal Historian, and Allen Chambers, architectural historian and editor. The photographs were taken by William Kumpf of Architectural Camera, Chicago.